

The LANTERN

July 2002

The Newsletter of Interdenominational Theological Center

Robert Franklin Resigns As ITC President

After five years as president of the ITC, Dr. Robert M. Franklin Jr. has submitted his resignation effective December 31, 2002. Dr. Franklin had been on a six-month sabbatical, engaged in research on religion and civil society, when he experienced severe injuries to both knees while traveling in India in April. The accident occurred while he was descending the famous Elephanta Cave near Bombay. Prior to this debilitating injury for which he underwent surgery at Piedmont Hospital, Dr. Franklin had planned to return to his presidential post on July 1, 2002. The rupture of his quadriceps tendons, requiring several months of recuperation and rehab, as recommended by his physician, was similar to the injury experienced by former President Bill Clinton.



Dr. Robert M. Franklin

"In view of the extended period of recuperation recommended by my physician, and the desire to continue my sabbatical travel and research, it makes sense to step aside and allow ITC to select new leadership," Franklin announced in his statement to the Board of Trustees. "I look forward to publishing my research findings and then to

exploring new vocational opportunities."

During his tenure, Dr. Franklin guided ITC in securing the reaffirmation of its accreditation, established new public service programs to address training for faith-based institutions in HIV-AIDS prevention, appointed the school's first female academic dean, diversified the funding sources for the school, increased faculty development benefits, and increased the size of the student body. Franklin popularized the idea that ministers should be "public theologians" as they serve both the faith community and the larger public good.

Dr. Joe S. Ratliff, pastor of Brentwood Baptist Church in Houston, Texas and chair of the ITC Board of Trustees, reluctantly

Continued on back page

Gospel/Soul Artist Cissy Houston Among Honorees at 2002 Annual Charter Day and Costen Awards Dinner

ITC celebrated its annual Charter Day and James H. Costen Awards Dinner on March 22, 2002, recognizing pioneers in the arts, business, civic/community affairs, education, government, and religion. This year's honorees were Ms. Emily "Cissy" Houston, gospel and soul artist and mother of recording artist Whitney Houston; Mr. Calvin "Cal" Darden, vice president of U.S. Operations, United Parcel Service; Dr. and Mrs. Robert and Peggy Lupton, founders of Family Consultation

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The *Lantern*, July 2002

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- * Master of Divinity (M.Div.)
- * Master of Arts in Christian Education (M.A.C.E.)
- * Master of Arts in Church Music (M.A.C.M.)
- * Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.)
- * Doctor of Theology (Th.D.)

The D.Min. and Th.D. degrees are offered through cooperation with the Atlanta Theological Association.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Oliver J. Haney Jr.

Dear Alumni, Supporters,
and Friends:

In our continuing effort to keep you informed, we offer this issue of the Lantern. It contains reports of many of our successful programs including our record-setting commencement of May 11, 2002, graduating the largest class in our history, both degree and certificate recipients. In this issue you will also find a calendar of events for the forthcoming academic year as well as important announcements regarding leadership changes at the ITC.

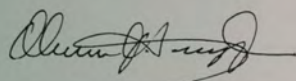
I pray that your ministry is going well and thriving as things are here. Among our many successes, we formalized the Selma and Harry V. Richardson Ecumenical Fellowship, formerly the At-Large Fellowship. We plan to have a part-time director on staff by July 1, 2002. We were also the benefactors of a most meaningful Charter Day Celebration and Copher Lecture.

We established three new awards to be given annually during commencement. The Jonathan Jackson Faculty Excellence Award, given in memory of our late colleague, was awarded to Dr. Anne Streaty Wimberly. The second, the ITC Legacy in Ministry and Service Award, was presented to Retired United Methodist Bishop L. Scott Allen. The third award given to graduating seniors, the Exceptional Promise in Ministry and Service Award, was presented to Rev. Lenda Faye Matthews (Morehouse School of Religion) and Rev. Kaylan B. Walker (Phillips School of Theology).

We take great pride in our Health Education and Leadership Project (ITC/HELP) directed by Dr. Monifa Jumanne. Through Dr. Jumanne's leadership, ITC/HELP has become a nationwide program designed to educate and assist the Black Church in addressing the issue of HIV-AIDS. Dr. Jacqui Burton continues to bless us with the Institute of Church Administration and Management. Through this most valuable ministry, this year alone, more than 900 ministers and students here on our campus and other selected sites around the nation have participated in workshops designed to enhance leadership skills. THANKS BE TO GOD FOR SUCH GREAT OPPORTUNITIES! These are just some of our great ministries and successes. There are many others and more to come. This is where we need you.

In these brief listings, I hope you can see and affirm the importance of ITC in the church and world today. Our calling is clear, namely, "to prepare leaders and preachers to minister to the hurts and pains of our world." To this end, we are indeed committed and desperately need your help. I ask you to prayerfully consider how God would have you support this ministry. Your generous gift will enable us to offer more scholarships to needy and deserving students, expand our curriculum to meet the needs of a constantly changing world and church, and keep ITC on the cutting edge of theological education. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you in advance for your support.



Commencement 2002

*Episcopal Bishop, Barbara C. Harris,
Keynotes ITC's Class of 2002
at King Chapel*



Top: Dr. Harris, along with four other honorary degree recipients, received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from ITC. (L-R: Dr. Joe Ratliff, Rev. Barbara Harris, Bishop Frank Cummings (Turner honoree), Dr. Walter Kimbrough (Gammon honoree), Bishop Thomas Hoyt Jr. (Phillips honoree), Bishop Eddie Long (Morehouse honoree), Dr. Oliver Haney.



The Right Rev. Barbara C. Harris addressed the Class of 2002 on Saturday, May 11, in the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel on the campus of Morehouse College. In 1989 Dr. Harris was consecrated the first female bishop to the episcopate in the worldwide Anglican Communion. The ITC awarded 104 master's and doctorate degrees and 118 certificates in theology at its 43rd commencement ceremony. †



During the Commencement exercises, acting president, Dr. Oliver Haney, announced three new awards: The Jonathan Jackson Faculty Excellence Award to Dr. Anne S. Wimberly (above center); The ITC Legacy in Ministry and Service Award to Bishop L. Scott Allen (bottom), and The ITC Exceptional Promise in Ministry and Service Award to Lenda Faye Matthews and Kaylan B. Walker, 2002 ITC graduates (page 2, bottom).

CHAPEL CALENDAR, FALL 2002

Sept. 5	President's Hour
Sept. 10	Ecumenical Worship Service
Sept. 12	Academic Dean's Hour
Sept. 17	FALL CONVOCATION
Sept. 19	Student Christian League
Sept. 24	Chapel Committee
Sept. 26	Lord's Supper
Oct. 1	Faculty Area III
Oct. 3	Theta Phi
Oct. 8	AUC Joint Convocation
Oct. 10	Internal Campaign Kick-Off
Oct. 15	Lord's Supper
Oct. 17	Black Women in Church and Society
Oct. 22	M. M. Turnipseed Moore Lectures
Oct. 24	Lord's Supper
Oct. 29	Reformation Day
Oct. 31	Student Greek Day Worship Service
Nov. 5	Faculty Area IV
Nov. 7	One Church One Child
Nov. 12	Student Christian League
Nov. 14	Lord's Supper
Nov. 19	Internal Campaign Finale
Nov. 21	ARTIST IN RESIDENCE
Nov. 26	ITC Chorus Fall Concert
Nov. 28-29	THANKSGIVING RECESS
Dec. 3	Gammon Founders' Day
Dec. 4	Classes End
Dec. 9-12	Final Exam Week
Dec. 20	Semester Ends

SAVE THESE DATES

Friday, April 25, 2003 Charter Day and
James H. Costen Awards Dinner

Monday, May 19, 2003 Gardner C. Taylor
Faith Flight Golf Classic

Annual Charter Day and James H. Costen Awards, cont'd

Services Urban Ministries; Dr. James L. Waits, president, Fund for Theological Education; the Honorable Tyrone Brooks, Georgia State Representative, District 54; and Dr. Jacquelyn Grant, Callaway Professor of Systematic Theology and founder of the organization, Black Women in Church and Society. ITC also presented Mrs. Ozzie Quarterman with the "Travelin' Shoes" award.

The event, held at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta, began with a silent auction and featured donated items that included fine crystal and art prints, a sports suite package, airline tickets, and fine garments from renown designers. Other celebratory events during ITC's Charter Week included the Charles B. Copher Lecture Series on March 20 in the ITC Chapel. This year's lecturer, Dr. Melva W. Costen, spoke on the topic: "Music in the Liturgy of African-American Congregations: Transformative and Prophetic Trends into a New Millennium." Dr. Costen is the Helmar Emil Nielsen Professor of Music and Worship at ITC.

On March 21 during the 11:00 a.m. chapel hour, an Alumni Worship Service was led by ITC's seminary deans: Thomas L. Brown Sr., Phillips School of Theology (Christian Methodist Episcopal), Daniel



Seated: Cissy Houston (3rd from left) and daughter-in-law, Patricia Houston with Ron White (ITC Associate and Merrill Lynch financial analyst) and wife Cornelia.

W. Jacobs Sr., Turner Theological Seminary (African Methodist Episcopal), Walter H. McKelvey, Gammon Theological Seminary (United Methodist), Arthur Mosley (interim), Charles H. Mason Theological Seminary (Church of God in Christ), William T. Perkins, Morehouse School of Religion (Baptist), and Charles Easley (interim), Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary (Presbyterian [USA]). †

ITC expresses thanks to the following supporters who made this year's dinner a success.

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The ITC Legacy and a Gift of Love

Two points of influence made J. Warren Smith, professor of Historical Theology at Duke University, follow in his late father's footsteps. "After my father left pastoring, ministry was not the first thing on my mind," he says. Dr. Warren Smith's father, W. Thomas Smith, was professor of Church History at ITC from 1974 until his death in 1986. The senior Dr. Smith traveled to Methodist and Lutheran conferences throughout his career, and apparently the father's teaching series on historic figures like Augustine and Luther, and his talks about Wesleyan revival stirred something in his only child Warren. Not wanting to do exactly what his father did, Warren studied eastern patristic theology, focusing his work on the first five centuries of Christianity, but in the eastern part of the empire (Alexandria, Egypt, Constantinople, and Turkey).

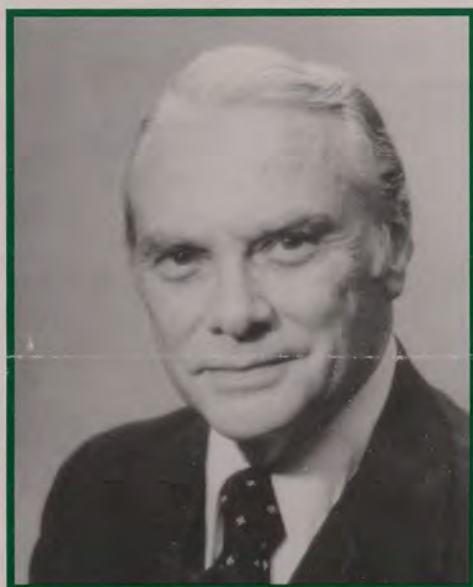
Atlanta's Ben Hill United Methodist Church also had a hand in shaping the younger Dr. Smith for a future career in the ministry. "I remember my mom and I traveling with dad to Ben Hill at the invitation of the late Bishop Cornelius Henderson. The sense of family there left a lasting impression on me. Ben Hill was a living example of the Wesleyan history I had learned about from my father," he says. Dr. Warren says he witnessed the growth at Ben Hill under that teaching.

Dr. Tom Smith was a bundle of energy according to his son and from those who knew him. He was effective as a church history teacher at showing how the religious experience of historic church figures grew out of their lives. "People often find biography the most interesting form of history," Dr. Smith says. "My father combined his energy with the biography of these forefathers to make his teaching come alive."

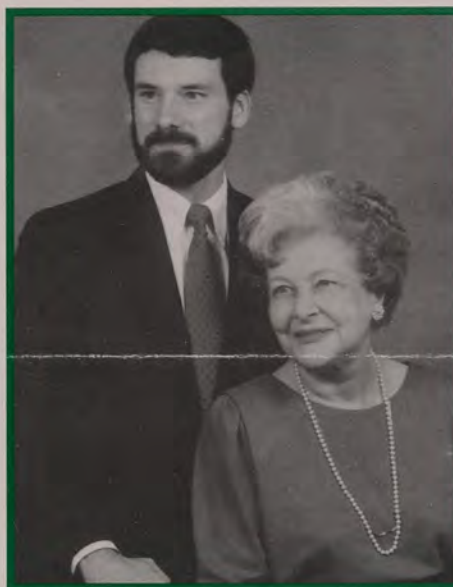
Dr. Warren Smith also notes that the wonderful thing about church history is that its relevance is not limited to a particular generation or time. "The beauty of church history is watching students realize that there really is 'nothing new under the sun.'" He adds that the insight of the generation of Christians who have gone on before is relevant. Their voices are not dead but are still used for dealing with everyday issues in life today.

The Smiths' legacy of being part of the ITC family spans several

The Smiths' legacy of being part of the ITC family spans several presidential administrations. Dr. Grant Shockley (1976-79) gave the younger Dr. Smith his first Latin dictionary. Thinking of Dr. Harry (1959-68) and the late Mrs. Selma Richardson brings a smile to his face. "Just very gracious, earnest Christians," he says.



Dr. W. Thomas Smith



Dr. J. Warren Smith and Mrs. Barbara Sullards Smith

presidential administrations. Dr. Grant Shockley (1976-79) gave the younger Dr. Smith his first Latin dictionary. Thinking of Dr. Harry (1959-68) and the late Mrs. Selma Richardson brings a smile to his face. "Just very gracious, earnest Christians," he says. "ITC is not just where dad taught, but the sense of family remained with us. I remember being in the fifth grade when our family was invited to a faculty/student dinner for first-year students. Dr. Oswald Bronson's (1968-75) address, which began with 'Welcome to the ITC family...' exemplifies the sense of spirit of

the people who touched our lives from ITC." Dr. Smith still crosses paths with ITC affiliates from time to time, most recently J. Deotis Roberts, (1980-83) who was a visiting professor at Duke last year.

Mrs. Barbara Sullards Smith, wife and mother in the Smith family, continued to support ITC until her death in March 2000. Her support culminated in a financial bequest to the school of just over \$24,000 from her estate. Dr. Smith says his mother's gift to ITC is an expression of love to one of the institutions that nurtured her and her family over the years. (The couple also made a bequest to

Wesleyan College where they met.) "I think she wanted to leave something of the life that they shared and built together," he says, adding that his mother saw herself as closely tied to her husband's ministry. "She took just as much pride in being a professor's wife as in being a minister's wife." Mrs. Smith took pride in being able to support her husband at home, which enabled him to carry out his work at ITC. She also took pride when she met former students at annual conferences whenever they would come up to her to introduce themselves to "Dr. Smith's wife." Dr. Smith reflects that many of his father's students would often ask his father to preach at their churches. When he did, his wife and son always accompanied him. So the bonds of relationships at ITC were not only at the school but in the church as well.

Dr. Warren Smith, who is still a member of the North Georgia conference, was married in October 2001 to Kim Doughty, a Philadelphia native and former teacher now working on a master of social work degree at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Finally, Dr. J. Warren Smith says, "ITC will always have a special place in my heart. And we just pray God's blessing upon you." †

ITC CELEBRATES SECOND ANNUAL FAITH FLIGHT GOLF CLASSIC



Gardner C. Taylor Faith Flight Golf Classic



The ITC hosted its second annual Gardner C. Taylor Faith Flight Golf Classic on May 13, 2002 at the beautiful Brown's Mill Golf Course in southwest Atlanta. Presentation of prizes and trophies at an awards luncheon following the tournament included the following winners:

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

First: James Aiken and George Langston
Second: Richard Bright and James Milner
Third: Garret Allen and James Wilborn

FIRST FLIGHT

First: Emmanuel McCall Jr. and Darrell Williams
Second: Cedric Hawk and Calvin Moody
Third: Hezekiah Benton and Lairalaine White

A portion of the proceeds from the tournament will benefit the Gardner C. Taylor Preaching Archive and Listening Room (TALR) at the ITC. The TALR received its initial funding from the Ford Foundation to establish an archive of speeches and sermons by African-American preachers and orators of the 20th century who have articulated and helped actualize an expanded vision of democracy in America. The TALR houses nine listening stations and a conference area making available 450 tapes of sermons by Dr. Taylor and other noted theologians. Dr. Wallace S. Hartsfield Jr. is presently serving as Director. Rev. Gardner C. Taylor, whose theological teachings and writings are used by seminaries across the country, is also an avid golfer and attended the tournament this year. Having served over fifty years in ministry, he is founding pastor of the Concord Baptist Church of Christ in



L-R (James Milner, Richard Bright, Emmanuel McCall Sr., and Gardner Taylor)



Dr. Gardner C. Taylor and wife, Dr. Phyllis Taylor

Brooklyn, New York.

Sponsors for the Tournament included Brentwood Baptist Church, Christian Fellowship Baptist Church, the Coca-Cola Company, Georgia Pacific Company, Georgia Power Company, United Parcel Service and Elijah Walker "Inner City Golf Academy."

TWO FROM 2002



ITC GRADUATE, LENDA FAYE MATTHEWS

Gifted, anointed and committed to gospel preaching, Rev. Lenda Faye Matthews is very adamant about her calling to speak healing to those who are hurting.

A native of Yazoo City, Mississippi, she is a 1983 graduate of Tulane University in New Orleans where she received a dual bachelor of science degree in Biology and Sociology. After college Rev. Matthews was an employee of the state of Louisiana for fifteen years. Twelve of those years she served as a probation and parole officer/specialist in Jefferson Parish working specifically with adult offenders who were habitual, violent, or sex offenders.

Lenda Faye began her theological studies at the Loyola University Institute of Ministry in New Orleans, Louisiana. Her concentration at ITC's Morehouse School of Religion was Pastoral Care and Counseling-Psychology of Religion. At ITC's May 11, 2002 commencement she graduated with academic honors and distinction as recipient of the ITC Faculty Award. Other honors include Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, The International Society of Theta Phi and the Exceptional Promise in Ministry and Service Award.

Rev. Matthews is a founding member of the Christian Unity Baptist Church (since 1989) in New Orleans where she serves as an associate minister. She is a former trustee ministry member and chairperson of the ministry, youth usher advisor, member of the Voices of Inspiration choir, Sunday school teacher, and youth study detention ministry coordinator.

Rev. Matthews also currently serves as an associate minister at Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in Atlanta where she is minister of care, minister for the single heart ministry, and teaches adult Sunday school. She has worked as a mentor and teacher at the Providence Baptist Church Learning and Development Center and is a volunteer coordinator for

ROSA (Reaching Out to Senior Adults). Future goals include a clinical pastoral residency in preparation for doctoral studies, chaplaincy, and pastoral counseling certification.

Rev. Matthews, the second of five children and the only daughter of Ms. Johnnie Matthews, is known for her sense of humor, joyous smile, and laughter. She enjoys quiet moments, reading, singing, baking, traveling, and playing scrabble. Most importantly, she loves the Lord, testifies of God's love for her, and is willing to follow God's lead.



ITC GRADUATE, KAYLAN BRIAN WALKER

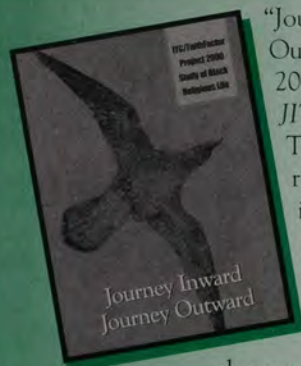
Rev. Kaylan Brian Walker entered the Phillips School of Theology at the ITC in fall of 1999. It is his goal to become a university professor and administrator after receiving a doctorate degree in sociology of religion, his concentration for the master of divinity program. Now that he has received the M.Div. degree his plans include continuation of full-time parish ministry. Rev. Walker received a bachelor of science degree in

business and public administration from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge and a master of public policy degree in social policy analysis from Georgetown University in Washington, DC. Before entering seminary, he served as a legislative aide to a U.S. senator and taught seventh grade mathematics.

During his time at ITC, Kaylan was involved in several activities. In addition to being an honor student, he served as budget and finance chair of the Student Christian League, chairperson of nominations and elections of Phillips Student Fellowship, member of ITC Faith and the City Steering Committee, and service co-chair of the 2002 Input Group. He also served as a student representative to the ITC Board of Trustees and as president to the ITC chapter of the International Society of Theta Phi.

Rev. Walker is a lifetime member of Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity. A native of Homer, Louisiana, he is the eldest son of Rev. Rosie Walker and the late Cornelius Walker. Rev. Walker is an ordained itinerant elder of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church and has served as pastor of the Mt. Zion C.M.E. Church of Rome, Georgia for the past two and one-half years. †

JOURNAL OF THE INTERDENOMINATIONAL THEOLOGICAL CENTER



"Journey Inward Journey Outward," the theme of the fall 2001/spring 2002 issue of the JITC, is a take on Howard Thurman's concept of "social regeneration," that is, an inward movement that results in a response to outward situations — the inseparable linkage of spirituality and community outreach. This issue

also provides descriptions of types of religiosity among African-American peoples in North America, including mosques, storefront churches, megachurches, and rural congregations. It highlights the most significant findings of ITC's Project 2000, the most current and comprehensive survey of the African-American religious experience. The issue also offers interpretations of the meaning and significance of Project 2000's data with hopes of broadening and enriching the understanding of Black religion among church leaders, scholars, philanthropists, government officials, and the media.

Authors of articles are Drs. Ihsan Bagby, Sandra Barnes, Christine Chapman, Michael Dash, Robert Franklin, Lawrence Mamiya, Steve Rasor, and Tamelyn Tucker-Worgs.

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NECROLOGY + SPRING 2002

We celebrate the memory of ITC family members who departed this life.



Dr. Jonathan Jackson, the mold for so many Christian educators, died March 14, 2002. A 1956 graduate of ITC (Gammon Theological Seminary), Dr. Jackson retired in 2000 after having served ITC for over thirty years as Christian education professor, chair of Area IV (The Church and its Ministries), and after

having provided the wings from which countless ministries soared. As campus coordinator for Faith and the City, an interfaith collaboration between ITC, Candler School of Theology, and Columbia Theological Seminary, he continued to provide a positive role model for all whose paths he crossed. His motto, "Christian Education is that ministry that undergirds and supports all of the other ministries of the church," will affect the ministry of many for untold years.

Rev. C. R. Johnson, a 1948 graduate of Turner Theological Seminary, died in his hometown of Macon, Georgia.

Bishop Donald K. G. Ming, former Episcopal bishop of the first district of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, died March 12, 2002.

Rev. William Scarbrough, a 1948 graduate of Turner Theological Seminary, died in Atlanta, Georgia.

Rev. Leroy Thompson Sr., a 1994 graduate of the Certificate in Theology Program, died September 29, 2001. He was pastor of Mt. Hermon AME Church in Miami, Florida. †

Department of Institutional Effectiveness Established



Dr. Ed Hale

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE) has been established at ITC to ensure the quality and effectiveness of the institution's educational programs and support services. Dr. B. Edward Hale, who comes to ITC from Georgia Perimeter College where he was former assistant director of Institutional Research, directs the department. Ms. Reta L. Bigham, assistant director,

states that all alumni should expect to receive requests for input, because of their integral role in ITC's institutional effectiveness. All units of ITC are involved in the implementation of institutional effectiveness through planning and evaluation, which is comprehensive as well as continuous. The foundation of institutional effectiveness is ITC's mission statement. One of ITC's top priorities is to effectively perform its stated mission: "...to educate Christian leaders for ministry and service in the Church and the global community." †

ALUMNI NOTES

Rev. James Avery Alexander Sr. (TTS '84) serves as senior pastor at the Greater Mount Carmel AME Church, Doraville, Georgia.

Rev. Helen Davis Bell (GTS '98) has been appointed district superintendent in the West Virginia Annual Conference.

Rev. Edward Best (GTS '80) pastors the Old National United Methodist Church in College Park, Georgia and was honored with the 2001 Distinguished Alumnus Award from Gammon Theological Seminary during the 2001 Founders' Day celebration.

Rev. Simon P. Bouie (TTS '66) received the Distinguished Alumnus Award at Turner Theological Seminary's 2002 Founders' Day celebration.

Rev. Billy J. Carter Sr. (MSR '86) is pastor of Greenhill Baptist Church in Elgin, South Carolina, and founder of *Where It Happens*, a community outreach ministry in Lugoff, South Carolina.

Rev. Howard Coleman (MSR '71) was honored as Morehouse School of Religion's 2002 Distinguished Alumnus.

Rev. Nathaniel Copeland (TTS '01) pastors the Greater St. Paul AME Church in Troy, Alabama.

Rev. Bobby Cox (TTS '00) pastors the historic Saint John AME Church in Birmingham, Alabama, the largest AME church in that state.

Rev. Keith Cox (GTS '00) pastors the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, Auburn, Georgia.

Rev. Harold G. Gordon (GTS '89) pastors the Wesley United Methodist Church in Columbia, South Carolina.

Rev. Carey Grady (TTS '01) pastors Shiloh AME Church in McCormick, South Carolina.

Rev. Philis Griffin (TTS '99) pastors the Trinity AME Church in Salt Lake City, Utah, the first African-American congregation to be established before Utah was a state.

Dr. Angela Hardy (GTS '00) serves as associate pastor, Trinity United Methodist Church, Knoxville, Tennessee.

Dr. Carol Helton (GTS '86) serves as pastor of Inman Park United Methodist Church in Atlanta, Georgia and teaches the United Methodist Polity class at Gammon Theological Seminary.

Rev. Reginald Jackson (TTS '79) is pastor of St. Matthews AME Church in New York.

Rev. Belvin Jessup (GTS '71) pastors Holmes Groves UMC in Greensboro, North Carolina and has been elected to the City Council of Greensboro.

Rev. Randy Johnson (MSR '97) serves as an associate pastor at Friendship Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia.

Rev. Michele Sue Shumake-Keller (GTS '80) is district superintendent of the Hannibal/Kirksville District, Missouri East Annual Conference, and received the 2001 Distinguished Alumnae Award from Gammon Theological Seminary during the 2001 Founders' Day observance.

Rev. Harold K. Lester (MSR '84) serves as senior pastor of Orchard Knob Missionary Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Dr. Joseph Earle Lloyd (MSR '74) is senior pastor of God's House of Prayer, Detroit, Michigan.

Rev. Yvette Massey (MSR '00) serves as an associate pastor at the Cascade United Methodist Church, Atlanta, Georgia.

Chaplain Donnie L. Moore (MSR '83) serves as a chaplain for the U. S. Army at Ft. Gordon and is CEO of MILQ, a human behavior consulting company.

Dr. Isaiah David Phinisee (JCS '78) and **Dr. Devia Pelham Phinisee** (JCS '76) were honored as Distinguished Alumni of 2002 at Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary's Founders' Day celebration.

Elder John Reddick (CHM '86) was honored as the 2002 Distinguished Alumnus of C. H. Mason Theological Seminary at its 2002 Founders' Day activities.

Dr. Jasper C. Register (MSR '62) retired from the department of Sociology, East Carolina University, after 26 years, as associate professor emeritus.

Dr. Albert J. H. Sloan (PST '69) was honored as the 2002 Distinguished Alumnus of Phillips School of Theology at their 2002 Founders' Day festivities.

Rev. Dr. William Smith, Jr. (TTS '71) is senior pastor of Mother Emanuel AME Church, Charleston, South Carolina.

Dr. Dan Stevenson (TTS '85) pastors Trinity AME Church, Savannah, Georgia, a new congregation that he started in 1998.

Rev. Timothy Tyler (TTS '91) pastors Wayman Temple AME Church in Saint Louis, Missouri.

Dr. William D. Whatley (TTS '68) serves as CEO/Secretary Designate of the New Jersey Commerce & Economic Growth Commission.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: DR. JACQUELYN GRANT



Visionary, Womanist theologian, and teacher are but a few of the descriptors that are most often used to provide a picture of our honoree. Add to that list preacher, author, musician, wife, and friend and you get closer to knowing Dr. Jacquelyn Grant. Most recently she was awarded the 2002 James H. Costen Award in Religion, at the 44th Charter Day and 5th James H. Costen Awards Dinner, acknowledging her diligence in religion.

Dr. Grant's vision has been instrumental in causing the church to take a different look at the role and treatment of women, calling for the recognition of the value of women to society. Her trailblazing work has contributed to the development of Womanist

Theology that is used across religious disciplines of the world, helping to abolish oppression and gender bias against women. Dr. Grant is the founder and director of Black Women in Church and Society (BWCS), an organization that encourages and facilitates the inclusion and full participation of women in the total life and work of the church and the larger society. She has successfully worked to add a concentration in Womanist Studies to the ITC curriculum, manifested most significantly at ITC in the Womanist Scholars program, an international program that brings two female scholars to the campus each year.

Dr. Grant holds the master of divinity degree from Turner Theological Seminary at ITC; the master of philosophy and doctor of philosophy degrees from Union Theological Seminary in New York; and the doctor of humane letters degree from Payne Theological Seminary in Wilberforce, Ohio. She has published an extensive list of articles and is author of the best-selling book, *White Women's Christ and Black Women's Jesus*.

A native of Georgetown, South Carolina, Dr. Grant is married to Rev. John W. P. Collier Jr.

As part of her contribution to "This Far By Faith," a collaborative ministry between ITC, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, BlackSide, Inc., and public broadcast stations across the country, Dr. Grant provides a capsulization of some of the thoughts that drive her work: "Until we are able to really empower women, until we are able to become comfortable with freeing the church of sexism as well as all the other 'isms' that exist in the church, we will never be able to create a church that's big enough even for God." †

Alumni Spotlight is designed to highlight the ministries of ITC alumni. Please send information to Dallas Terrell at 700 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SW, Atlanta, GA 30314-4143 or dterrell@itc.edu.

Institute for Black Religious Life and Project 2000

The Institute for Black Religious Life (IBRL) is the research arm of ITC/FaithFactor. Developed as a set of initiatives to help the black community tackle the challenges of the 21st century, IBRL pinpoints the black religious experience through research and public outreach, and is a conduit for pertinent data on black religious organizations and faith-based initiatives.

IBRL hosted an Interfaith Symposium at ITC in January 2002 during which renowned leaders of the Muslim and Christian faiths came together for a unique dialogue on the pressing issues facing the Black Church of today. Speakers included Dr. Lawrence Mamiya (Vassar College), Dr. Ihsan Bagby (Shaw University), Dr. Clifton Marsh (Morris Brown College), Imam Plemon-El Amin (Atlanta Masjid), Ms. Jamilla Karim (Duke University), and many prominent guest speakers from ITC and the greater Atlanta black religious communities, including the African Hebrew religious community, Islamic faith community and the traditional African Diaspora religious community.

Originally, the symposium was designed to provide a forum to discuss findings from ITC/FaithFactor Project 2000, the nation's most comprehensive and accurate survey of the African American religious experience. Dr. Ihsan Bagby conducted a portion of that study, under the direction of Project 2000, related to the Black Muslim experience. In response to the events of September 11, 2001, The IBRL expanded the symposium to provide a public meeting that included audience discussion related to opportunities where Black Christians and Black Muslims have worked together and could work together in the future. Findings related to Project 2000 provided a base to enlist discussion among participating groups, ITC students, and the public. †

Islam Among African Americans

Dr. Marsha S. Haney, ITC Professor of Missiology Publishes Scholarly Text

One of the most pressing religious issues facing the African-American Christian community today is the growth of Islam among Blacks. In a fascinating historical study, *Islam and Protestant African-American Churches: Responses and Challenges to Religious Pluralism*, Dr. Marsha Snulligan

Haney identifies the general factors that are responsible for this growth as well as the specific reasons why Islam appeals to an ever-increasing number of African Americans, Black urban males, in particular. She reveals the areas where Protestant churches need to develop a relevant mission and ministry to Muslims and provides the criteria necessary for developing a model that could be used to re-evangelize the African-American community. A provocative and timely work, *Islam and Protestant African-American Churches* is an indispensable resource for religious scholars and ministers interested in meeting the new challenges that stem from the growth of Islam in America. Dr. Haney's book is timely considering the heightening interest of the American public in learning about Islam.



Topics include...

- Historic Determinants of the African-American Islamic World View
- Significant Islamic Movements in the United States
- The Leadership of Imam Warith D. Muhammad
- The Present as History: Focus on Islam
- The Protestant African-American Churches: Perceptions of Islam
- Recommendation: A Culturally Specific Model of Mission in a Religiously Plural Society

Dr. Haney is professor of Missiology and Religions of the World at ITC where she also serves as chairperson of Area III, Persons, Society and Culture. An ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church (USA), she has served internationally as both pastor and theological educator in Sudan, North Africa, Cameroon, West Africa, and the cities of Los Angeles and Pasadena in California. Contact Dr. Haney at 404-614-6323. †

The Environmental Justice and Stewardship Initiative

The Justice and Stewardship Project: the Environment, a joint initiative of Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC), the Nathan Cummings Foundation, and Faith and the City, aims to raise the level of environmental consciousness in the communities served by our churches. The project has four primary goals. The first is to develop an academic course that integrates environmental justice and stewardship, preparing students to incorporate awareness of the issues into their ministries. The second project goal is to develop a continuing education credit (CEU) course for clergy and laypersons in non-degree seminary programs. Third, the academic course will be modularized for infusion into the several broad disciplinary areas of most seminaries. At ITC, for example, the areas are biblical studies and languages; philosophy, theology, ethics, and history; persons, society, and culture; and the church and its ministries. Finally, the course will be made available to other historically black seminaries.

The project's first course, "Faith, Justice and the Environment," will be offered this fall at ITC and available through cross-registration to students at the other two Faith and the City partner seminaries, Candler School of Theology and Columbia Theological Seminary. The two-

semester course is designed to meet the requirements for ministry and context at ITC, contextual education at Candler, and supervised ministry at Columbia.

"This course seeks to introduce a distinctly African-American understanding of the world, the earth, and the church," explains Dr. Miriam J. Burnett, director of the project and lead instructor of the second semester course. She emphasizes that the course is designed to build the bridge between theory and practice that is essential to effective ministry in church and society.

By most any standard, Dr. Burnett brings impressive qualifications to her post as director of the Justice and Stewardship Project. She is a licensed physician (Morehouse School of Medicine) with a background in private practice and public health. She also earned the master of divinity degree from ITC and is an ordained elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Her previous assignments include serving as medical director for the Coweta County Sheriff's Department and as primary care director for the Coweta County Health Department.

For more information on the Justice and Stewardship Project, contact Dr. Miriam Burnett at ITC, 404.614.6398, or via email at mburnett@itc.edu. †

Dr. Arthur Lewis Among Lutheran Leaders Who "Stand with Africa"

ITC's own Dr. Arthur Lewis was among a group of sixteen leaders of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America who journeyed to Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania in January 2002 for the "Stand with Africa Campaign." Dr. Lewis is director of the Lutheran Theological Center on ITC's campus and is past chairperson of the denomination's Commission for Multicultural Ministries.

"Stand With Africa" is a three-year program to support African churches and communities as they withstand AIDS, banish hunger, and build peace. Education about HIV/AIDS

is the focus of "Stand With Africa" during its first year. Findings by the United Nations estimate that over 12 million children living in sub-Saharan Africa have been left without parents due to the AIDS pandemic. These children make up 94% of all AIDS orphans worldwide.

"Our trip was largely spent on the ground visiting AIDS patients in hospitals and visiting villages where children are literally raising children," Dr. Lewis says. "It was staggering to learn that 700 to 800 persons die here each day from AIDS."

Dr. Lewis goes on to explain that Lutherans are working with partners to provide education about the spread of HIV/AIDS and are supporting projects that train AIDS orphans to take care of themselves. These include learning how to cook and grow food. Using the term, "uzima," Dr. Lewis adds, "wholeness is what we strive for." †



Dr. Arthur Lewis with children from Kenya.

Resignation, cont'd

accepted Dr. Franklin's letter of resignation. "We are grateful to Dr. Franklin for his many significant contributions to the ITC. We prayerfully wish him a rapid and complete recovery and every success in the continuation of his current research and in his future vocational aspirations," Chairman Ratliff said.

Dr. Oliver J. Haney Jr., who has served as ITC's acting president during Dr. Franklin's sabbatical, will continue in that role until a new president is appointed. The Board of Trustees is establishing a search committee that will begin the selection process in August 2002. †



700 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30314-4143

SAVE THESE DATES

April 25, 2003
Charter Day and James H.
Costen Awards Dinner

May 19, 2003
Gardner C. Taylor Faith Flight
Golf Classic